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DC-0261US.NP
Foote and Yeo
10/553,585
January 13, 2006

REMARKS

Claim 4 is pending in the instant application. Claim 4 has been rejected. Claim 4 has been amended.

This amendment is being filed in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated July 30, 2009. Reconsideration is respectfully requested since step (d) was amended to recite that the actual picogram per milliliter of blood level of brain natriuretic peptide or N-terminal probrain natriuretic peptide was measured. This amendment is explained and discussed at page 7 of the response. The claim was amended so that the language objected to was revised to specify what blood levels were compared. Antecedent basis is created in steps (a) and (c) of claim 4, as amended. Therefore, the specific language objected to is no longer recited in amended claim 4.

Applicants believe that the foregoing comprises a full and complete response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly,

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favorable reconsideration and subsequent allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Massey Licata

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Date: July 30, 2009

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